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ACTION EUR-01

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	EAP-01	EB-01	OIGO-01	H-01	INM-02	TEDE-00
	INR-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-02	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SB-00
	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00
	T-00	USIE-00	SNIS-00	NISC-02	PMB-00	PRM-10	PRME-01
	DRL-09	G-00	/060W				

-----658822 081429Z /38

P 081425Z AUG 94
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8765
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY HARARE
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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GENEVA FOR RMA NAIROBI FOR DART/REFCOOR

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREF, PREL, PHUM, EAID, MOPS, RW

SUBJECT: RWANDA DONORS: BELGIUM

REF: STATE 210008

1. AS PER REFTTEL, POLCOUNS SPOKE WITH AFRICA DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND WITH MFA CHEF DE CABINET LODE WILLEMS TO URGE THAT GOB COMMIT ANY ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE PENDING TO RWANDA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MFA OFFICIALS STATED VALUE OF PUBLIC BELGIAN BILATERAL AID TO RWANDA SO FAR SINCE APRIL 1994 HAS BEEN 442 MILLION BF (APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 13.7 MILLION). TO THIS SHOULD BE ADDED THE APPROXIMATELY 200 MILLION BF (APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 6.2 MILLION) WORTH OF EQUIPMENT BELGIUM LEFT BEHIND FOR UNAMIR I. THE SUM

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PROVIDED TO RWANDA FROM BELGIUM FROM OCTOBER 1993-BEGINNING APRIL 1994 WAS 227 MILLION BF (APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 7.0 MILLION), FOR A TOTAL OF 869 MILLION BF (APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 26.8 MILLION) FROM OCTOBER 1993 TO PRESENT. THIS WAS STRICTLY BILATERAL AID AND DID NOT INCLUDE THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO BELGIUM FROM THE EU HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR THE RWANDAN EMERGENCY.

2. WILLEMS AND SONIA GERLO IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE SECRETARY FOR COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT SAID THEY COULD NOT/NOT YET PROVIDE FIGURES ON FUTURE ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA. BELGIUM HAD A TEAM IN KIGALI NOW WHICH WAS ASSESSING AND WOULD RECOMMEND BOTH AMOUNTS AND KINDS OF FUTURE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA. GERLO THOUGHT THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE WOULD LIKELY BE FUNNELED DIRECTLY THROUGH THE UNHCR, UNLIKE PAST AMOUNTS WHICH WERE PROVIDED THROUGH MSF, A MEDICAL MISSION (MEMISA), THE RED CROSS AT BUKAVU, AND THE UNHCR. WILLEMS EXPECTED THAT BELGIUM WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE A LARGE PORTION OF ITS OVERSEAS AID TO RWANDA.

3. IN ADDITON TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, AN ARTICLE IN THE BELGIAN DAILY "LE SOIR" 8/8 QUOTED ERIC TODTS, WHO JUST

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ORGANIZED A TELEVISION OPERATION ON UNCLASSIFIED T.V.
TO COLLECT FUNDS FOR RWANDAN REFUGEES, AS SAYING THAT MSF,
OXFAM, CARITAS, AND THE ICRC HAD SO FAR COLLECTED 250
MILLION BF (U.S. DOLS 7.7 MILLION) IN BELGIUM ALONE IN
PRIVATE DONATIONS SINCE APRIL 1993. TODTS PROJECTED THAT
THE FOUR ORGANIZATIONS WOULD COLLECT AN ADDITIONAL 350
MILLION BF (U.S. DOLS 10.7 MILLION) IN THE COURSE OF THE
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CURRENT CAMPAIGN BY MSF, OXFAM, CARITAS AND THE RED CROSS,
BRINGING BELGIAN PRIVATE ASSISTANCE TO 600 MILLION BF
(APPROXIMATELY 18.4 MILLION US DOLLARS), WHICH THE PRESS
CLAIMED WOULD REPRESENT THE LARGEST SUM EVERY COLLECTED
PRIVATELY IN BELGIUM FOR A SINGLE HUMANITARIAN
CATASTROPHE. EMBASSY ALSO NOTES THAT AMONG VIP'S WHO HAVE
RECENTLY VISITED RWANDAN REFUGEE OPERATIONS IN ZAIRE WAS
BELGIAN PRINCE LAURENT, WHO VISITED GOMA'S KIBUMBA CAMP
8/4 AT THE INVITATION OF MSF-BELGIUM.

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